



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: T. Chiba et al.  
Serial No.: 09/807,322 Group:  
Filed: Oct. 13, 1999 Examiner:  
For: METHOD OF PREPARING RIGID  
POLYURETHANE FOAM

DECLARATION

Honorable Commissioner of  
Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

I, Yasuo YOSHITOSHI, a citizen of Japan, residing at Shinyamamoto Building 9F, 1-1-25, Dojima, Kita-ku, Osaka-shi, Osaka-fu, Japan, hereby declare as follows:

That I am a general attorney licensed to practice in Japan and familiar with the Japanese laws relating to succession of a decedent's property;

That, from the factual situation, I learned Mr. Takanori CHIBA, who was one of the original, joint inventors of the above identified application, died on April 14, 2000 intestate;

That, from the Family Register of the late inventor Mr. Takanori CHIBA, a certified copy thereof and its English translation being attached hereto as Exhibit A, I learned that the late Mr. Takanori CHIBA was married to Kazuko CHIBA and had two children, Kumiko CHIBA (first daughter, adult) and Mamiko CHIBA (second daughter, adult);

That, I understand that the Family Register of Takanori CHIBA, deceased, attached as Exhibit A has been issued in accordance with Articles 86 and 1 of the Japanese Family Register Act, a copy of which being attached as Exhibit B, which respectively stipulate that the death of a person shall be notified to a mayor of a district within a legal term, i.e. 7 days from acknowledgement of the death of that person by a relative or a person of the same resident, to enter into a family register and that compilation of the family register is under the jurisdiction of the mayor in the district. Accordingly, I solemnly believe that Exhibit A is a legal document issued by the competent jurisdiction in Japan and it also serves as a Certificate certifying that upon his death Mr. Takanori CHIBA's name has been deleted from his family

register;

That, unlike the U.S. jurisdiction, I do not believe that in Japan any certificate from a court showing that Mr. Takanori CHIBA's wife and two daughters are his legal heirs shall be issued;

That, I do believe that, as the exact counterpart to the court certificate in the United States, the Japanese family register showing the removal of Mr. Takanori CHIBA's name (from his family register) is recognized to be a clear and sufficient proof verifying that his wife, Ms. Kazuko CHIBA, first daughter, Ms. Kumiko CHIBA, and second daughter, Ms. Mamiko CHIBA are the legal representatives and heirs who are to succeed to all right, title and interest over any property previously owned by her husband/their father Takanori CHIBA, deceased. More specifically, Japanese Civil Act, Articles 882, 887, 890, 896, 898, 899 and 900, the relevant portions of these Articles with English translations thereof being attached hereto as Exhibit C, deal with succession and inherited properties. Of these provisions, particularly Articles 887(1), 890 and 900 (1) are applicable to the case of the late inventor, Mr. Takanori CHIBA, as he died intestate and having spouse or two children. According to these provisions, it may reasonably be understood that all rights and property held by the late Mr. Takanori CHIBA have automatically been transferred from him to his wife and two children, as they are his legal heirs and that his wife and two daughters are representatives;

That I further believe that, in view of the attached Exhibits A, B and C, Ms. Kazuko CHIBA, Ms. Kumiko CHIBA and Ms. Mamiko CHIBA are entitled to execute any necessary documents relating to the above identified application as the legal representatives and heirs to the estate of Takanori CHIBA, deceased;

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under §1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

By: Yasuo Yoshitoshi  
Yasuo YOSHITOSHI  
General lawyer

Dated this 16th day of July, 2001